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crude petroleum by exceeding the depth of exceptional interest derived from the mobility of the meager data available. Local authorities believe that the mortality rate in children up to 5 years of age averages from 25 to 30 per cent for the country as a whole. It ranges from 10 to 12 per cent, or more, in Beirut proper to from 30 to 45 per cent in Tripoli, Sidon and the towns of the hinterland. In the more remote villages of South Lebanon, the standards of living are extremely low, and the mortality in children under 5 years of age probably reaches 50 to 70 per cent. Intestinal diseases are foremost among the causes of death in infancy and early childhood.

Some Economy

The economy of Lebanon is based upon agriculture, but the country is in a more favorable position than the neighboring Arab states, in that the national income is augmented by an increasing tourist traffic and by remittances to their families from emigrants living abroad. Although the coastal plain and the Bekaa valley support a variety of crops, a large part of the territory is mountainous and unsuitable for cultivation. The coastal region is cultivated intensively, with a series of narrow terraces extending along the seaward slopes of the Lebanon range up to an elevation of about 1,000 feet. Little more than 20 per cent of the total land area is now under production, while less than one fifth of that is irrigated. Considerable disparity exists between current estimates of the amount of arable land, but all agree that it can be increased materially by a greater utilization of the available water resources and by improved methods of cultivation. Progress has already been initiated for the further development of irrigation facilities, notably in the southern Bekaa, and in the 'Akkar plain, a triangular sector between the coast and the northern frontier with Syria. The tradition of private ownership is strong in the mountainous districts of the north, and most of the land is cultivated by independent [illegible]

Health Services has recently been established in the Bureau of Municipalities and Town Planning, also in the Ministry of the Interior. This division advises on local public health matters in the cities and the towns, including Beirut, all of which come under the jurisdiction of this Ministry.

The Ministry of National Education conducts limited health services in the government schools. The Ministry of Public Works undertakes the construction of water supplies and sanitary facilities, in consultation with the Ministry of Public Health. The Ministry of Social Affairs supervises the health standards in industries, while the Ministry of National Economy has divisions for the control of adulteration of foodstuffs and for the surveillance of conditions in the resort towns.

Numerous voluntary agencies are engaged in social welfare and related health activities among the different racial and religious communities. The Lebanese Red Cross carries on an extensive program which is partially subsidized by the government. It maintains 3 dispensaries in Beirut and 13 in the provinces, as well as a mobile dispensary in South Lebanon. In addition, it supports infant welfare services in all sections of the country, and manages milk distribution centers for Lebanese children and for Palestinian refugees in Beirut and Zahle. It also operates a school for nurses in Beirut.

The National Union of Child Welfare represents 20 affiliated organizations which conduct welfare or health work among the children of the diverse religious and racial groups. It endeavors to co-ordinate the activities of its members and to provide advice or material assistance as required. The Union is subsidized by the Ministry of National Education, but it functions also in association with the Ministry of Public Health. It has recently sponsored the construction of a center for the care of crippled children on the outskirts of Beirut.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign Society carries on an active program for the pre-

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